wheat of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) is procured at Minimum Support Price (MSP), plus bonus whenever applicable, by Government agencies in wheat producing States. Farmers have the option to sell their produce to Government agencies at MSP or to private traders, as is advantageous to them. Procurement of wheat in any Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) depends upon several factors such as production, market arrivals, open market price, extent of private participation etc. The lower level of procurement of wheat in Crop Year 2005-06 as compared to Crop Year 2002-03 was on account of higher open market prices, negative market sentiments due to low stocks of wheat in the Central Pool as on 1.4.2006, low market arrivals and more active participation by private traders in RMS 2006-07.

The Government has announced an MSP of Rs. 750 per quintal for wheat to be procured in RMS 2007-08 which is Rs. 100 per quintal more than the MSP fixed in RMS 2006-07.

Sale of fake products

†1088. SHRI MAHENDRA SAHNI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fake products are openly being sold in consumer item market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government are not capable of imposing ban on the dealers/distributors of the said fake products; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No report to this effect has been brought to the notice of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.